

Tyson Wash Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund (WQARF) Site

Community Advisory Board Meeting

Final Minutes

Wednesday, July 13, 2005
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Quartzsite Community Center
305 N. Plymouth Street
Quartzsite, Arizona

OU #06-007

CAB members present: Herman York (Co-Chair), Cecil Loyet, and Martha Chapman

Members absent: Jean Winter and Jack Burris

ADEQ Staff in attendance: Chris Gamache, Project Manager; Linda Mariner, Community Involvement Coordinator; and Wendy Flood, Community Involvement Coordinator

Members of the public present: Marilyn McFate, Mickey Freedman, Bob Freedman, Dale Schooley, Walter Akin, Audrey Berger, and Jerry Berger

The meeting began at 1:10 p.m.

The following matters were discussed, considered, and decided upon at the meeting:

1. **Welcome and Introductions -**
Introductions of Community Advisory Board (CAB) members, ADEQ staff, and members of the public were made.
2. **Acceptance or changes to the October 29, 2003 draft minutes -**
Cecil Loyet moved and Martha Chapman seconded that the minutes be accepted as written. Minutes were unanimously accepted.
3. **Call to public - None**
4. **Brief review of current status and activities -**
The Project Manager, Chris Gamache, presented a slide show that gave a project update with sampling data, treatment system performance data, current field activities, and treatment system goals. He also explained the reporting process required by statute.

Mr. Gamache began his presentation with a review of the last sampling event data for February 2005 from the quarterly groundwater monitoring event. There was another sampling event near the end of May, but all of the data had not been completely interpreted. Mr. Gamache showed a map of the groundwater flow in a northwest direction from the site and a map that showed the current PCE concentrations in wells around the site. In April 2003, ADEQ installed the pump and treat system used in the early response action phase that is underway. A little over two million gallons of groundwater have been treated between April 2003 and March 2005, and PCE levels have declined in that area. However, PCE is slowly spreading, so the system will be expanded. The granulated activated carbon drum was replaced back in March 2005.

Mr. Gamache explained that the upcoming field activities include installing three new extraction wells, one new injection well, and connecting all the new wells to the current treatment system. The four wells will all be about 8 inches in diameter located in the public right-of-way and not on private property. These new well locations are designed to draw the water with contamination toward the treatment system and reduce the spreading of the contamination.

Mr. Gamache stated that the treatment system goals for the future of the site are to contain the contamination and to reduce the size of the plume in one to two years. Once accomplished, ADEQ will evaluate the long-term total clean-up of the site. Mr. Gamache finished his presentation by stating that the quarterly groundwater monitoring reports, the remedial investigation report, and the feasibility study are either done or in process. The final Remedial Investigation report can be found in the public repository at the Quartzsite Town Library.

Mr. Loyet asked if there was the possibility of other sites like Ted's Truck Stop contributing to the contamination at the Tyson Wash WQARF site. Mr. Gamache explained that they are completely separate, and Ted's Truck Stop has not impacted the Tyson Wash WQARF site.

Mr. Freedman asked if Mr. Gamache had indeed said that 2 million gallons of water has been processed so far by the treatment system at the WQARF site. Mr. Gamache confirmed that it had, and he predicted that once the expansion is complete, the system will be able to pump 25 gallons per minute compared to the 10 gallons per minute currently being pumped out.

The question was asked about how often the granulated activated carbon drums (GAC) are changed. Mr. Gamache replied that the 55-gallon drums are changed every one or two years after being tested for PCE every quarter to see if the carbon is spent.

Mr. Gamache was asked if the injection wells help to dilute the contamination in the groundwater. He responded that the system is designed to flush the contamination toward the remediation system. The treated water is injected back into the ground and pushes the contamination to the area where the extraction wells are located.

Another question asked was how much PCE remains in the groundwater at the site. Mr. Gamache replied that since there are no records of the amount of the contaminant disposed of on or near the site, it is hard to know what is still left in the groundwater after the treatment system has been in operation. PCE dissolves easily in water even one gallon will contaminate groundwater.

Mr. Gamache then explained PCE in response to a question. Mr. Gamache mentioned that the historical records showed that there was a truck wash area and former dry cleaner/laundromat on the site. Several citizens responded that Quartzsite has never had a dry cleaner, but Mr. Gamache explained that PCE could have been used in the laundromat processes.

A gentleman with adjoining property to the west of the site asked if his domestic well used to water his plants was pulling PCE contamination away from the treatment system on the site, and the answer was that it was possible.

The last question asked was whether a nitrate plume on the other side of Tyson Wash that was detected from some well sampling done back in 1995 was associated with the WQARF site, and Mr. Gamache responded that it was not.

5. Annual Registry Report -

Copies of the annual registry report with 36 site summaries were handed out to members for reference or comment. Mr. Gamache explained that this is done annually so that the public can be informed of all WQARF Sites within the state.

6. Discussion of CAB Membership -

Ms. Mariner explained the Arizona statutes concerning CAB membership and quorum status. Due to various circumstances, membership has dropped and members are needed. Mr. York presented two CAB applications previously submitted and opened the floor to others to join. Four people filled out and submitted applications for membership.

Mr. Loyet pointed out that Jean Winter has not attended the last several CAB meetings and moved that she be removed from the CAB. The CAB decided that the voting on new members and deleting absent members should be put on the agenda at the next CAB meeting. Ms. Mariner will send a letter of notification to Ms. Winter. In response to some discussion, Mrs. Flood suggested that perhaps the CAB should consider amending the charter at the next meeting in order to set the number of members for the board.

7. Future meeting plans -

Wednesday, November 30, 2005 was set as the date for the next CAB meeting. Agenda items discussed for the next meeting include: 1) Removing and adding members to the CAB, 2) Amending the charter, 3) Update on quarterly monitoring and treatment system expansion activities, and 4) discussion and voting of CAB Co-Chairs.

Mr. Loyet moved that the meeting be adjourned, and Ms. Chapman seconded it at 2:15 p.m.